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Message Text

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73
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-10

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /075 W
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R 081144Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9858
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
EUCOM
CINCUSAFE
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN
USIA WASH DC
USNMR SHAPE

UNCLAS ANKARA 5274

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR
SUBJ: TURKISH PRESS REPORTS ON CYPRUS AND ARMS EMBARGO DEVELOPMENTS

1. ALTHOUGH DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS AND POLITICAL ISSUES DOMINATED THE FRONT PAGES OF THE TURKISH PRESS TUESDAY (JULY 8), AS THEY HAVE FOR THE PAST WEEK, HURRIYET, TURKEY'S LARGEST DAILY, GAVE MODERATE PLAY TO THREE STORIES RELATED TO THE U.S. ARMS EMBARGO AND CYPRUS DEVELOPMENTS.

2. UNDER A THREE-COLUMN HEADLINE ON PAGE THREE, HURRIYET REPORTED THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAD TOLD CONGRESSMEN IN A PRIVATE MEETING THAT CONTINUATION OF THE U.S. ARMS EMBARGO
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COULD PRECIPITATE A GOVERNMENT CRISIS IN TURKEY THAT COULD

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JEOPARDIZE THE COUNTRY'S DEMOCRATIC REGIME. THE PRESIDENT
ALSO WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT BY CONTINUING THE
ARMS EMBARGO, "WE WILL HAVE DESTROYED WITH OUR OWN HANDS
THE MOST IMPORTANT WING OF NATO AND LOST OUR MOST IMPORTANT
SUPPORT IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST."
THE HURRIYET STORY, DATELINED NEW YORK, CARRIED NO
ATTRIBUTION AS TO SOURCE.

3. ON THE SAME PAGE, HURRIYET GAVE A DETAILED ACCOUNT
CONCERNING THE REPORTED REFUSAL OF TURKISH AUTHORITIES TO
PERMIT REPRESENTATIVE EDWARD BEARD TO VISIT THE TURKISH-
CONTROLLED SECTOR OF THE ISLAND. THE HURRIYET STORY
ALLEGED THAT MR. BEARD'S ATTEMPT TO CROSS INTO THE
TURKISH ZONE WAS A CONTRIVED PROPAGANDA MANEUVER ARRANGED
IN COLLABORATION WITH GREEK CYPRIOTS. THE PRO-REPUBLICAN PEOPLES'S
PARTY ANKARA DAILY, BARIS, CARRIED A SIMILAR REPORT.

4. A THIRD ITEM IN TUESDAY'S HURRIYET REPORTED THAT
NEGOTIATIONS ON THE STATUS OF COMMON DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS
WOULD BEGIN IN ANKARA JULY 17 AT THE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL.
ACCORDING TO THE UNATTRIBUTED REPORT, THE TURKISH SIDE
WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY ERCUMENT YAVUZALP, GENERAL DIRECTOR
OF THE MUTUAL SECURITY OFFICE OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.
THE STORY ADDED THAT WHETHER OR NOT THE EMBARGO WAS
LIFTED, NEGOTIATIONS ON THE STATUS WOULD GO FORWARD BUT
THAT THERE WAS NO RPT NO CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO LEAVING
NATO BECAUSE OF THE EMBARGO.

5. COMMENT: THOUGH EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THE EMBARGO AND
TURKEY'S REACTION TO IT HAS DIMINISHED IN RECENT DAYS
FROM THE VERY HIGH LEVEL WHICH FOLLOWED THE TURKISH
GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT ON JUNE 17, WE ASSUME THAT IT WILL
RETURN TO ITS FORMER INTENSITY AS CONGRESS TAKES UP THE
ISSUE FOLLOWING THE 4TH OF JULY RECESS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ARMS EMBARGO, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA05274
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750235-0644
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750775/aaaacook.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAR 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <22 MAR 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PRESS REPORTS ON CYPRUS AND ARMS EMBARGO DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR
To: STATE
Type: TE
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